

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
DELO et al.

Serial No.: Not Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Assigned

Filed: February 13, 2002

Examiner: Not Assigned

For: System and Method for Repairing a
Damaged Application Program

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
(Accompanying Continuation Application)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to the examination of the above-identified patent application, please enter the following amendment.

In the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 1, please amend the specification by removing the paragraph entitled "CROSS-REFERENCE TO OTHER APPLICATIONS" and substitute therefor the following paragraph:

-- CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a continuation of copending United States Patent Application
Serial No. 09/158,126, filed September 21, 1998. --

Please substitute the following paragraphs for the paragraphs in the original specification (a marked up copy of the changed paragraphs showing additions and deletions to the previous versions of the identified paragraphs is attached hereto as Appendix A):

At page 4, lines 6-19:

Thus, existing installation technologies fail to support the ability to repair an application program if a requested program file becomes deleted or otherwise unavailable at the program file's installed location. Accordingly, there is a need in the art for a system and method for installing an application program which provides the ability to efficiently resolve the situation where an installed program file becomes inadvertently unavailable to the application program. In addition, there is a need in the art for a system and method for verifying the existence of an installed program file upon an indication by the application program that the program file is needed. Moreover, there is a need in the art for a system and method for providing an application program with the ability to install a missing program file in a background process that does not terminate the application program's current process.

At page 17, lines 14-22:

In response to the Provide Component call, the installer application 201 queries the installer registry 202 for the keypath 214 associated with the token 212. The installer application 201 then verifies that the key file 230 exists in its specified location, and if so,

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returns the keypath 214 to the shortcut 207, which in turn prompts the operating system 35 to execute the word.exe 230 key file at the location identified by the keypath 214. As discussed above, the word.exe 230 key file is stored on the hard-disk drive 205 under the folder IIC:\Programs\Office\Word\."

REMARKS

Entry of the present preliminary amendment and a timely examination on the merits is respectfully requested. If in the opinion of the Examiner a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (425) 836-3030.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX A

Marked up copy of the paragraph in the original specification at page 4, lines 6-19:

Thus, existing installation technologies fail to support the ability to repair an application program if a requested program file becomes deleted or otherwise unavailable at the program file's installed location. Accordingly, there is a need in the art for a system and method for installing an application program which provides the ability to efficiently resolve the situation where an installed program file becomes inadvertently unavailable to the application program. In addition, there is a need in the art for a system and method for verifying the existence of an installed program file upon an indication by the application program that the program file is needed. Moreover, there is a need in the art for a system and method for providing an application program with the ability to install a missing program file in a background process [with] that does not terminate the application program's current process.

Marked up copy of the paragraph in the original specification at page 17, lines 14-22:

In response to the Provide Component call, the installer application 201 queries the installer registry 202 for the keypath 214 associated with the token 212. The installer application 201 then verifies that the [keypath 214] key file 230 exists in its specified location, and if so, returns the keypath 214 to the shortcut 207, which in turn prompts the operating system 35 to execute the word.exe 230 key file at the location identified by the keypath 214. As discussed above, the word.exe 230 key file is stored on the hard-disk drive 205 under the folder IIC:\Programs\Office\Word\.